Customer No. 24498
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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) Method for connecting a device not having wireless communication capability to a wireless network; characterized, at the level of a bridge device comprising means for interfacing with the wireless network comprising an access point, by the steps of:

- detecting a connection between the device and the bridge device;
- determining ~~an~~ a MAC address for the device and for the bridge device;

and

- separately registering to the access point, with the respective MAC addresses, the device and itself as wireless devices on the wireless network, wherein the registration is performed through an authentication and an association process of the type as defined by the IEEE 802.11 standard.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) Method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of having the bridge device monitor traffic on the wireless network for the device.

4. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of programming packet filters for packets having as destination address the MAC address of the device, and upon detection of such a packet, acknowledging receipt of said packet in place of the device.

5. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 3, further comprising at least one of the following steps:

- forwarding all multicast packets detected on the wireless network from the bridge device to the connected device;
- forwarding all broadcast packets detected on the wireless network from the bridge device to the connected device;
- forwarding unicast packets on the wireless network having as destination address the MAC address of the connected device to that device.

6. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 4, further comprising at least one of the following steps:

- forwarding all multicast packets detected on the wireless network from the bridge device to the connected device;
- forwarding all broadcast packets detected on the wireless network from the bridge device to the connected device;
- forwarding unicast packets on the wireless network having as destination address the MAC address of the connected device to that device.

7. (Original) Method according to claim 1, where the connection between the device and the bridge device is an Ethernet connection, and wherein the step of detecting the connection comprises monitoring packets on the Ethernet connection for detecting a previously unknown source address of an Ethernet device.

8. (Original) Method according to claim 3, where the connection between the device and the bridge device is an Ethernet connection, and wherein the step of detecting the connection comprises monitoring packets on the Ethernet connection for detecting a previously unknown source address of an Ethernet device

9. (Original) Method according to claim 5, where the connection between the device and the bridge device is an Ethernet connection, and wherein the step of detecting the connection comprises monitoring packets on the Ethernet connection for detecting a previously unknown source address of an Ethernet device

10. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the wireless network is of the IEEE 802.11 type, ~~type,~~ further comprising the step of maintaining a single management information base for both the bridge device and the connected device.

11. (Original) Method according to claim 3, wherein the wireless network is of the IEEE 802.11 type, further comprising the step of maintaining a single management information base for both the bridge device and the connected device.

12. (Original) Method according to claim 4, wherein the wireless network is of the IEEE 802.11 type, further comprising the step of maintaining a single management information base for both the bridge device and the connected device.

13. (Original) Method according to claim 5, wherein the wireless network is of the IEEE 802.11 type, further comprising the step of maintaining a single management information base for both the bridge device and the connected device.

14. (Currently amended) Bridge device ~~adapted~~ comprising means for communication on a wireless network and for connection of a first device not having wireless communication capability to a wireless network comprising an access point, said bridge device comprising:

- means for determining ~~an~~ a MAC address of the first device and of the bridge device;
- means for carrying out two separate device registrations for registering the first device and the bridge device as wireless devices on the wireless network, one for the bridge device, and one for the first device, using respective MAC addresses, wherein the registration is performed through an authentication and an association process of the type as defined by the IEEE 802.11 standard.

15. (Currently amended) Method for connecting a device not having wireless communication capability to a wireless network; characterized, at the level of a bridge device adapted to interface with the wireless network, by the steps of:

- detecting a connection between the device and the bridge device;
- determining ~~an~~ a MAC address for the device and for the bridge device; and
- separately registering as wireless devices, with the respective MAC addresses, the device and the bridge device to the wireless network, wherein the registration is

performed through an authentication process of the type as defined by the IEEE 802.11 standard.

16. (Currently amended) Bridge device adapted for communication on a wireless network and for connection of a first device not having wireless communication capability, said bridge device comprising:

- means for determining ~~an~~ a MAC address of the first device and of the bridge device;
- means for carrying out two separate device registrations, one for the bridge device, and one for the first device, for registering the bridge device and the first device as wireless devices on the wireless network using respective MAC addresses of the bridge device and the first device, wherein the registration is performed through an authentication process of the type as defined by the IEEE 802.11 standard.